5

10

15

24

METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY CONFIGURING A DSLAM TO RECOGNIZE CUSTOMER PREMISES EQUIPMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for automatically configuring a digital subscriber line add-drop multiplexer (DSLAM) includes receiving a request for a connection with unrecognized customer premises equipment at a DSLAM, establishing the connection between the DSLAM and the customer premises equipment, and associating the connection with a status having three possible states, which include an unverified state, a verified state, and an invalid state. The verified state indicates that the connection is allowed full access to a network, the unverified state indicates that the connection is allowed conditional access to the network, and the invalid state indicates that the connection is not allowed to access the network. The method further includes setting the status of the connection to unverified and authenticating the unrecognized customer premises equipment. If the unrecognized customer premises equipment is authenticated, the method includes setting the status of the connection to verified. If the unrecognized customer premises equipment is not authenticated, the method includes setting the status of the connection to invalid. The method also includes providing access to the network according to the current status of the connection.